IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of claims, and replaces all earlier listings and all earlier versions.

1. (Currently Amended) An image processing method for performing correction processing according to an attribute of an image, comprising the steps of:

analyzing whether compressed data contained in a drawing instruction corresponds to an image attribute, a text attribute or a graphics attribute by discriminating a format of the compressed data;

developing the compressed data to a bit map using a method corresponding to an analysis result obtained in said analyzing step; and

performing correction processing on the bit map according to the attribute identified on the basis of the analysis result.

2. and 3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~3~~ 1, wherein when the drawing instruction contains a text command, the attribute of the image is identified as text.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~3~~ 1, wherein when the drawing instruction contains a drawing function for drawing a figure, the attribute of the image is identified as the graphics attribute.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein when the format of the compressed data is JPEG, the attribute of the image is identified as the image attribute.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the drawing instruction is described in a page-description language.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the correction processing includes color correction, color conversion and n-valued processing.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the analysis is made on the basis of information on an extension indicative of a type of compression format.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the correction processing is color matching using ICC profile information.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the correction processing is to correct skin tones.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the correction processing is red-eye correction.

13. (Currently Amended) A storage medium on which a program for implementing an image processing method is recorded so that correction processing is performed according to an attribute of an image, the method comprising the steps of:

analyzing whether compressed data contained in a drawing instruction corresponds to an image attribute, a text attribute or a graphics attribute by discriminating a format of the compressed data;

developing the compressed data to a bit map using a method corresponding to an analysis result obtained in said analyzing step; and

performing correction processing on the bit map according to the attribute identified on the basis of the analysis result.

14. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus for performing correction processing according to an attribute of an image, comprising:

analysis means for analyzing whether compressed data contained in a drawing instruction corresponds to an image attribute, a text attribute or a graphics attribute by discriminating a format of the compressed data;

developing means for developing the compressed data to a bit map using a method corresponding to an analysis result obtained by said analysis means; and

correcting processing means for performing correction processing on the bit map according to the attribute identified on the basis of the analysis result.